

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 96

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PLOCHER.

6198H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1           **WHEREAS**, millions of veterans have proudly served in our country's Armed Forces  
2 over the years; and

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4           **WHEREAS**, during their service, many of our veterans have come into contact with  
5 various toxic chemicals, including Agent Orange and other dioxincontaminated herbicides during  
6 the Vietnam War, various neurotoxins during the Gulf War, and chemical weapons and burn pits  
7 in Iraq and Afghanistan during Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and New Dawn;  
8 and

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10          **WHEREAS**, this exposure has been linked to certain diseases which may affect both the  
11 veterans who were exposed and their progeny; and

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13          **WHEREAS**, there are still yet unexplained service-connected ailments and undetected  
14 residual medical conditions, including potential congenital malformations resulting from  
15 exposure to toxic chemicals, the extent, composition, and effects of which we do not yet  
16 understand; and

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18          **WHEREAS**, the pain, financial burden, and emotional turmoil that these medical  
19 ailments may cause are serious and worth addressing, particularly in light of the sacrifice that  
20 members of the Armed Forces made that led to such exposure; and

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22          **WHEREAS**, the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015, H.R. 1769 and S. 901, a  
23 bipartisan bill, has been introduced in Congress to create a national center within the Department  
24 of Veterans Affairs to research treatment and diagnosis of health conditions of descendants of  
25 veterans exposed to toxins during their military service; and

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27          **WHEREAS**, this measure would also authorize the Department of Defense to declassify  
28 certain incidents of exposure by service members to toxic substances, create a database of  
29 congenital anomalies, and devise a national outreach campaign on the potential long-term health  
30 effects of exposure to toxic substances on service members and their descendants; and

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32           **WHEREAS**, such a measure would have significant importance and potential impact on  
33 veterans living in Missouri and their children:

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35           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
36 Representatives of the Ninety-eighth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate  
37 concurring therein, hereby urge Congress and the President of the United States to enact H.R.  
38 1769 and S. 901, the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015; and

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40           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
41 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the  
42 President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate,  
43 the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and each member of the  
44 Missouri Congressional delegation.

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